

John T. Beardmore Commissioner

Lindsey M. Stepp Assistant Commissioner

State of New Hampshire Department of Revenue Administration

109 Pleasant Street
PO Box 487, Concord, NH 03302-0487
Telephone (603) 230-5000
www.revenue.nh.gov



MUNICIPAL AND PROPERTY DIVISION Stephan W. Hamilton Director

> Josephine Belville Assistant Director

June 23, 2017

Town of Warren ATTN: Board of Selectmen PO Box 40 Warren, NH 03279-

RE: 2016 Assessment Review

Honorable Members of the Board of Selectmen

The New Hampshire Department of Revenue Administration has completed its review based on the six assessment areas specifically identified in RSA 21-J: 11-a and RSA 21-J: 14-b I. (c).

They are:

- A. Level of assessments and uniformity of assessments are within acceptable ranges as recommended by the Assessing Standards Board by considering, where appropriate, an assessment-to-sales-ratio study conducted by the Department for the municipality;
- B. Assessment practices substantially comply with applicable statutes and rules;
- C. Exemption and credit procedures substantially comply with applicable statutes and rules;
- D. Assessments are based on reasonably accurate data;
- E. Assessments of various types of properties are reasonably proportional to other types of properties within the municipality; and,
- F. For all revaluations including full revaluations, partial revaluations, cyclical revaluations and statistical updates conducted on or after April 1, 2006 assessment year by either an independent contractor or an in-house assessor, a report based on the most recent edition of the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice (USPAP) Standard 6 shall be produced.

In accordance with RSA 21-J:11-a, II, the Department shall report its findings to the Assessing Standards Board and the municipality.

We are pleased to report that you have met most of the above standards adopted by the Assessing Standards Board (ASB), with the exception of the following:

Item III.A.2 Coefficient of Dispersion (COD). The COD should not be greater than 20. The Town of Warren's COD is 21.23.

Item III.B.2 Inventory of Property. The sampled properties should reflect assessments as of April 1. Two of the properties sampled did not reflect what was on the property as of April 1. Attached please find the Department's worksheets indicating areas that should be addressed.

Item III.C.1a Credits. Some of the sampled applications do not meet the criteria in RSA 72:28. Some of the applications were not found or approved, signatures were missing. If a property is in a Trust, the Form PA-33 must be filed. The Town should ensure all applicants comply with RSA 72:28 and 72:35. Attached please find the Department's worksheets indicating areas that should be addressed.

Item III.C.1.b Exemptions. Four of the sampled files did not have an application on file. Some of the files did not have proper documentation to ensure the applicant qualified. The Town should review the applicants to ensure they comply with state laws and rules. Attached please find the Department's worksheets indicating areas that should be addressed.

Item III.C.2 Religious, Educational and Charitable Exemptions. One of the applicants did not file the BTLA Form A-9 with the town and does not comply with RSA 72:23 III. The Town should ensure all applicants comply with state laws. Attached please find the Department's worksheets indicating areas that should be addressed.

We recommend the Town request adequate supporting documentation for the assigned market value for Land Use Change Taxes being assessed.

Prior to release of this report to the ASB you have an opportunity to respond to any DRA recommendations made. Your response should be made within 30 days of the date of this letter. We will be in contact with you to schedule a meeting to review this report. We are available to provide assistance to you in any areas not met, if needed.

We would like to thank the staff members who assisted with information retrieval as well as working in an understanding and cooperative manner.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that puersuant to RSA 75:8-a Five-Year Valuation as well as Part 2 [Art.] 6. [Valuation and Taxation.] of the State Constitution your next town-wide reappraisal must be completed no later than 2021.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Stephan W. Hamilton, Director Municipal and Property Division

cc: Assessing Standards Board File